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AUTHOR Kurfman, Dana G.; And Others
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ABSTRACT

A 3-part test measures the geography knowledge, skills, and understanding of secondary level students. Part 1, map skills and location, contains 20 questions involving the use of three maps: an imaginary sketch map, a contour map, and a political map of the world. Part 2 consists of 20 questions covering physical geography. Students analyze outline maps of Africa and the Western hemisphere, a cross-section diagram on landforms, and a temperature and precipitation graph, and answer general questions on geography and resources. In a final section focusing on human geography, 35 questions test students' understanding of a transportation map, two types of bar graphs, and their general knowledge of world populations. (LP)

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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION COMPETENCY-BASED GEOGRAPHY TEST

Secondary Level

FORM I

Parts I, II, and III

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SP 015582

To the Student:

This test is designed to discover what knowledge, skills, and understandings you have developed in geography. You will be answering questions about people and their environment. In addition, you will be asked to demonstrate how well you can use certain geographic skills.

Many questions will require the use of a map, graph, or drawing when responding. These questions always follow immediately below each map, graph, or drawing. You will need to think and study the map, graph, or drawing before selecting your answer. All questions have four possible answers. In each case, you should mark the answer you select on the separate answer sheet provided. Do not write on this test booklet. Mark only in the spaces provided on the answer sheet. Do not spend too much time on a difficult question. Now, listen carefully while your teacher gives you additional information.

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This test was prepared by a subcommittee of the National Council for Geographic Education's Test Development Committee. I am grateful to the members of this committee for the diligent effort they have expended over the past two years--formulating and compiling test items, gathering and analyzing data, and carrying out many other tasks associated with the development of this test. Also, I wish to express appreciation to the many high school teachers and students who participated in the pilot testing and final data collection. The members of the Secondary Test Development Subcommittee are:

Dr. Dana G. Kurfman, Chairperson
Supervisor of Social Studies
Prince George's County Public Schools
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Dr. Joseph M. Cirrincione, Professor
Department of Geography
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

Dr. Robert W. Richburg, Professor
Department of Education
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado

Ms. Catherine Jorgensen
High Point High School
Prince George's County Public Schools
Maryland

Mr. Ronald Anderson
Fairmount Heights High School
Prince George's County Public Schools
Maryland

Dr. Norman C. Bettis, Chairperson
NCGE Test Development Committee

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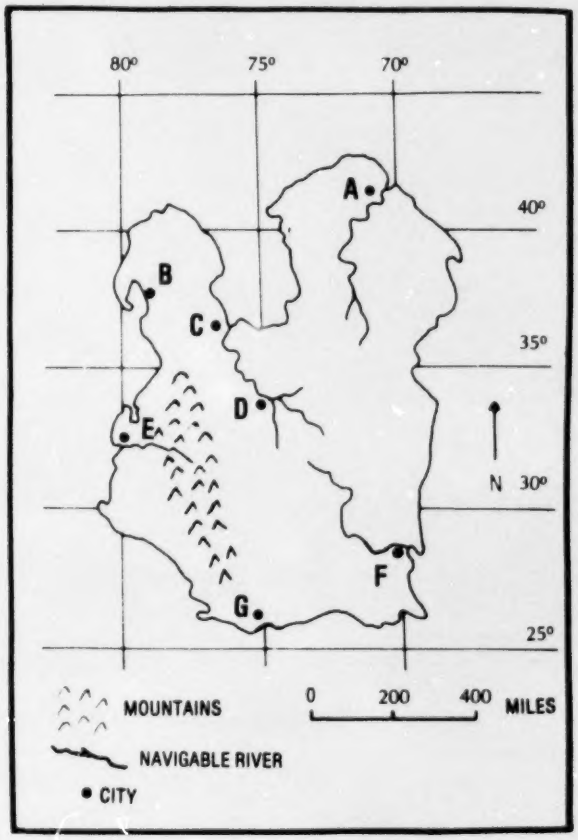
PART I

MAP SKILLS AND LOCATIONS

Questions 1-4 refer to the following sketch map.



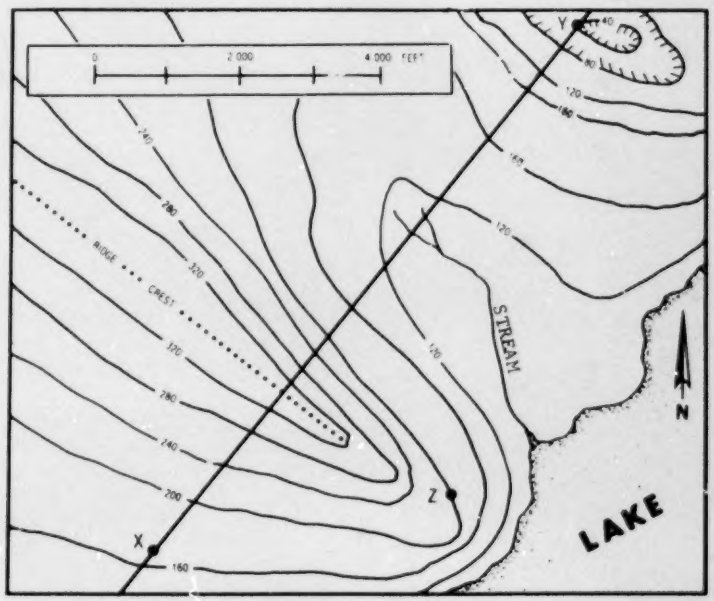
1. Approximately how far is it from B to D?
   A. 100 miles
   B. 200 miles
   C. 400 miles
   D. 600 miles

2. What direction would a person travel going from C to F?
   A. Southwest
   B. Northwest
   C. Southeast
   D. Northeast

3. The 30° and 35° lines are called lines of
   A. demarcation.
   B. elevation.
   C. longitude.
   D. latitude.

4. If the wind usually blows from the west, the least rainfall is likely to be found in the area
   A. between D and G.
   B. south of G.
   C. near A.
   D. between B and E.

Questions 5-8 refer to the following sketch map.

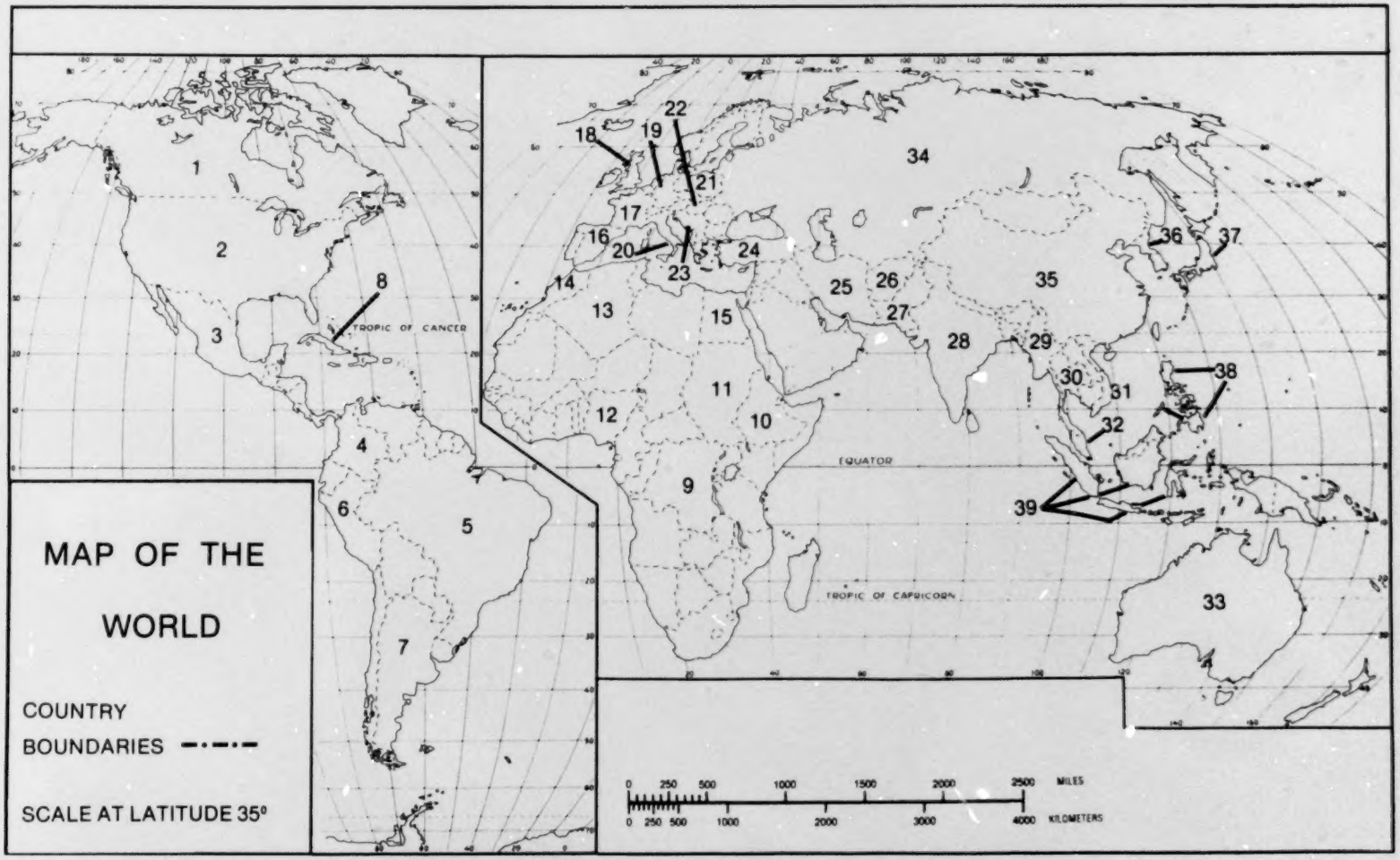


5. The distance from point X to Y is approximately
   A. 2000 miles.
   B. 4000 feet.
   C. 8000 miles.
   D. 10,000 feet.

6. Point X is closest in elevation to
   A. the ridge crest.
   B. Point Y.
   C. Point Z.
   D. the mouth of the stream.

7. The contour interval is
   A. 10 feet.
   B. 20 feet.
   C. 40 feet.
   D. 100 feet.

8. In what general direction does the stream flow?
   A. Northwest
   B. Northeast
   C. Southwest
   D. Southeast


MAP OF THE WORLD
COUNTRY BOUNDARIES
SCALE AT LATITUDE 35°
TROPIC OF CANCER
EQUATOR
TROPIC OF CAPRICORN
1
2
3
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39
0 250 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 MILES
0 250 500 1000 2000 3000 4000 KILOMETERS

Questions 9-20 refer to the world map on page 2.

9. Nation 13 is
   A. Libya
   B. Spain.
   C. Algeria.
   D. Burma.

10. Nation 19 is
   A. West Germany
   B. Poland.
   C. Turkey.
   D. Afghanistan.

11. Nation 11 is
   A. Saudi Arabia.
   B. Sudan.
   C. Egypt.
   D. Indonesia

12. Nation 4 is
   A. Colombia
   B. Chile.
   C. Italy.
   D. South Africa.

13. Nation 7 is
   A. El Salvador.
   B. Morocco.
   C. Nepal.
   D. Argentina.

14. Nation 12 is
   A. Australia.
   B. Nigeria.
   C. Iraq.
   D. Chad.

15. Nation 18 is
   A. the Philippines.
   B. Norway.
   C. Iraq.
   D. the United Kingdom.

16. Nation 35 is
   A. China.
   B. Japan.
   C. Saudi Arabia.
   D. Cuba.

17. Nation 25 is
   A. Cuba.
   B. the United Kingdom.
   C. Burma.
   D. Iran.

18. What do nations 34 and 35 have in common?
   A. Language
   B. Religion
   C. Communism
   D. Democracy

19. Nations 29, 30, 31, and 32 are in
   A. the Middle East.
   B. Southeast Asia.
   C. Oceania.
   D. the Indian Subcontinent.

20. What is the major religion of nations 3, 4, and 5?
   A. Protestant
   B. Buddhist
   C. Moslem
   D. Roman Catholic

STOP

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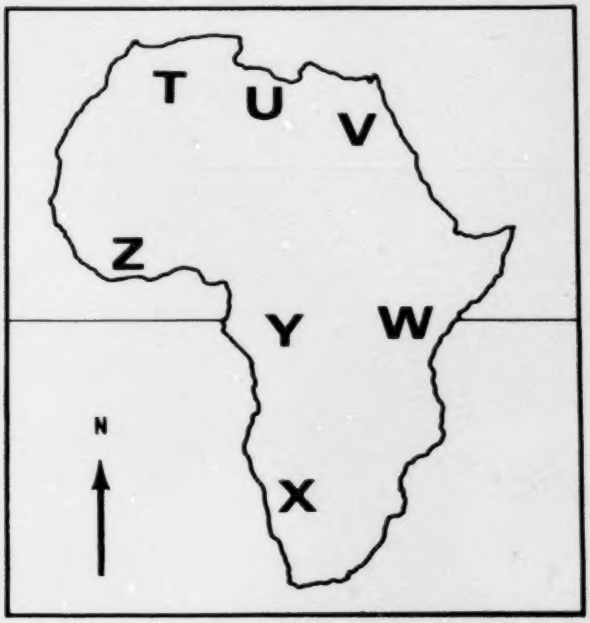
PART II

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Questions 21-25 refer to the following map of Africa.



21. Which areas in Africa are most characterized by tropical rainforest?
    A. Areas T and U
    B. Areas V and W
    C. Areas W and X
    D. Areas Y and Z

22. To which area of Africa do many Black Americans trace their roots?
    A. Area T
    B. Area Z
    C. Area X
    D. Area V

23. Which regions in Africa have the driest climate?
    A. Areas T and Y
    B. Areas U and X
    C. Areas W and Y
    D. Areas X and Y

24. Which area has highlands that were settled by the English?
    A. Area V
    B. Area W
    C. Area X
    D. Area Y

25. What major geographic feature is associated with area V?
    A. Atlas Mountains
    B. Kalahari Desert
    C. Rift Valley
    D. Nile River

* * * * * * * * * *

26. Which is an example of a renewable natural resource?
    A. Petroleum
    B. Steel
    C. Forest
    D. Coal

27. In the mountainous areas of Asia, rice paddies are created by
    A. terracing.
    B. contour plowing.
    C. burning vegetation.
    D. erosion.

28. Most of the world is made up of
    A. mountains.
    B. plains.
    C. deserts.
    D. oceans.

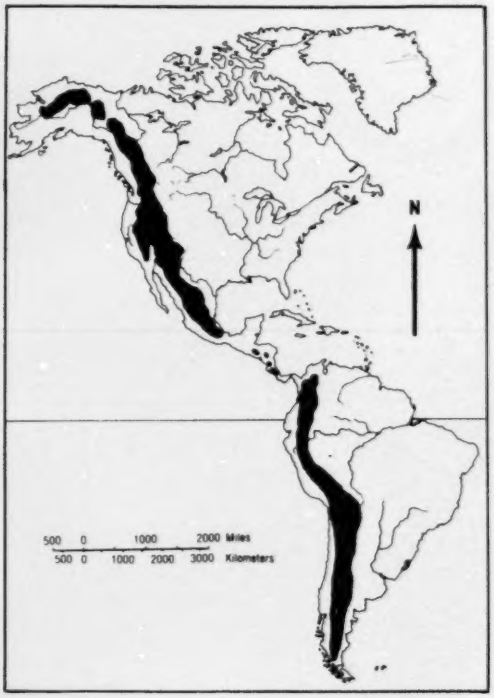
29. Average temperature, humidity, and rainfall describe a region's
    A. population density.
    B. unusual weather conditions.
    C. climate.
    D. topography.

30. The major type of climate in the Middle East is
    A. Tropical Rainforest.
    B. Tropical Savanna.
    C. Tundra.
    D. Desert.

31. In a hot, humid area, which crop is most likely to be grown?
    A. Rice
    B. Wheat
    C. Barley
    D. Rye

32. What type of climate has heavy rainfall and high temperatures throughout the year?
    A. Tropical Savanna.
    B. Tropical Rainforest.
    C. Desert.
    D. Tundra.

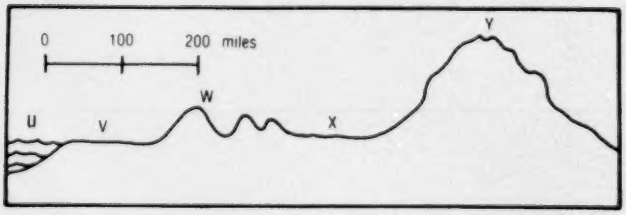
Questions 33-34 refer to the map below.



33. The shaded portions of the map above represent areas with
    A. primarily mountainous landscapes.
    B. hot temperatures.
    C. dense populations.
    D. low annual rainfall.

34. Which type of economic activity is most likely in the shaded areas?
    A. Mining
    B. Truck farming
    C. Steel production
    D. Rice farming

Questions 35-38 refer to the following diagram showing a cross section of landforms.



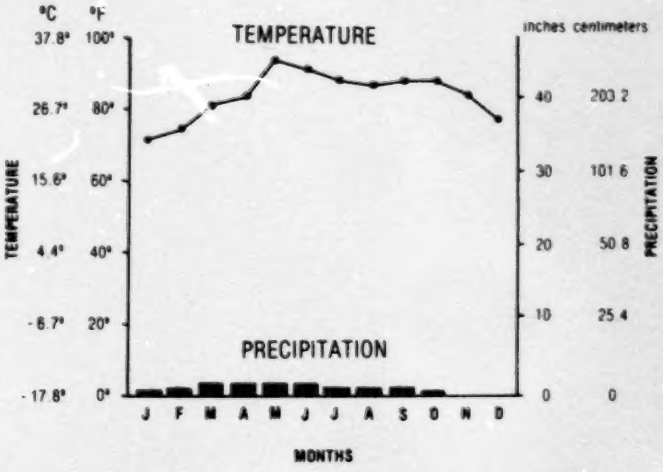
35. Which process would most likely have brought about landform Y?
    A. Deposition
    B. Faulting and folding
    C. Erosion
    D. Spreading

36. Which process would most likely be associated with landform X?
    A. Volcanic
    B. Faulting and folding
    C. Deposition
    D. Earthquakes

37. Removal of vegetation on the slopes of landform Y would likely increase
    A. air pollution.
    B. soil erosion.
    C. earthquakes.
    D. agricultural activity.

38. What activity would most likely be located in area V?
    A. Mining
    B. Forestry
    C. Farming
    D. Skiing

Questions 39-40 refer to the following graph.



39. The graph above best shows which type of climate?
    A. Tundra
    B. Tropical rainforest
    C. Marine
    D. Desert

40. In which country would you expect to find the place shown by this graph?
    A. Saudi Arabia
    B. Indonesia
    C. France
    D. the United Kingdom

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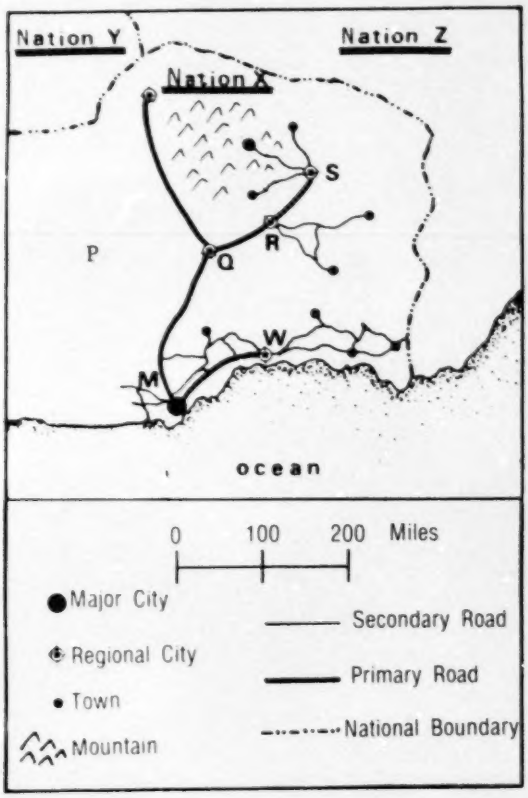
PART III

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Questions 41-45 refer to the following map showing the transportation system of nation X.



41. Where is there likely to be the greatest density of population?
    A. Between P and Q
    B. Between Q and R
    C. Between R and S
    D. Between M and W

42. In what place would you expect to find major emphasis on subsistence agriculture?
    A. P
    B. Q
    C. R
    D. S

43. City Q would most likely be a major center for
    A. recreational activities.
    B. transportation.
    C. environmental activities.
    D. retailing.

44. Which city would be the center for trade with the rest of the world?
    A. M
    B. Q
    C. R
    D. S

45. If a road were built from City M to the area around Point P, what type of change in P would be most likely?
    A. A decrease in the area's population
    B. A decrease in pressure on the environment
    C. An increase in economic activities
    D. An increase in natural vegetation

* * * * * * * * * * *

46. Which of the following best describes the impact of the Industrial Revolution on cities?
    A. The size of cities increased.
    B. The number of cities decreased.
    C. Cities became cleaner.
    D. Cities declined in importance.

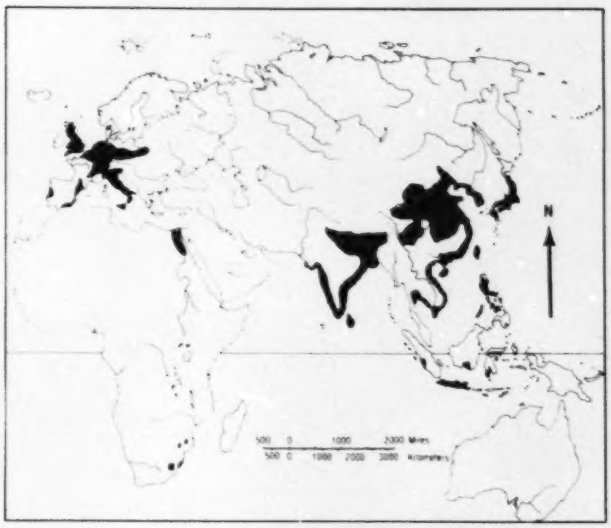
47. Which region below was the first to have an industrial revolution?
    A. Asia
    B. Western Europe
    C. North America
    D. Africa

48. How do farmers differ from manufacturers?
    A. Farmers take fewer financial risks.
    B. Farmers have less control over the price of what they produce.
    C. Farmers work with greater amounts of labor, machinery, and money.
    D. Farmers are less dependent on governmental policies.

49. What is a major reason for industry to locate in urban areas?
    A. Location of raw materials
    B. Limited labor supply
    C. Availability of a market
    D. Availability of shopping centers

50. Which is one major reason why agriculture in Latin America is underdeveloped?
    A. There are too few agricultural workers.
    B. There is little demand for farm products.
    C. Not enough machinery and fertilizer are available.
    D. A high percentage of people work in factories.

51. What product is heavily traded between Europe and the Middle East?
    A. Silica
    B. Coal
    C. Petroleum
    D. Iron ore



52. The shaded portions of the map above represent areas with
    A. primarily Negro populations.
    B. dense populations.
    C. high average incomes.
    D. primarily mountainous landscapes.

* * * * * * * * * * *

53. The region serviced by a city is called the city's
    A. hinterland.
    B. zone of service.
    C. lebensraum
    D. polders.

54. On which ocean would you find the <u>least</u> shipping?
    A. Atlantic
    B. Indian
    C. Pacific
    D. Arctic

55. Single-family houses are seldom located in a city's central business district because
    A. there are no schools nearby.
    B. people do not like to live near stores.
    C. land is very expensive.
    D. too many people would be crowded in a small area.

56. Latin America refers to
    A. the places where Latin is spoken.
    B. western hemisphere countries south of the United States.
    C. all countries in North and South America.
    D. only countries in South America.

57. Which of the following countries has the highest proportion of subsistence farmers?
    A. Germany
    B. Israel
    C. United States
    D. India

58. The development of large cities makes it easier to
    A. provide democratic government.
    B. exchange information and goods.
    C. develop major religions.
    D. control inflation.

59. Which of the following groups of nations has the highest per capita income?
    A. Yugoslavia, Turkey, Italy
    B. Norway, Sweden, Finland
    C. Iran, Sudan, Jordan
    D. Mexico, Costa Rica, Guatemala

60. What was the major reason for the population growth of 20th-century cities?
    A. Higher birth rates in cities
    B. Higher death rates in cities
    C. Movement from rural areas to cities
    D. Immigration from other countries

61. The widespread use of farm machinery is common in nations of
A. high per capita income.
B. high population density.
C. small farms.
D. non-commercial agriculture.

62. Population density depends on the relationship between
A. area and population.
B. area and income.
C. population and income.
D. population and natural resources.

63. Cities have long been centers for
A. farming.
B. manufacturing.
C. mining.
D. trading.

64. Which country has the most people?
A. Soviet Union
B. the United States
C. Canada
D. China

65. The greatest percentage of people in Latin America work in
A. agriculture.
B. manufacturing.
C. commerce.
D. mining.

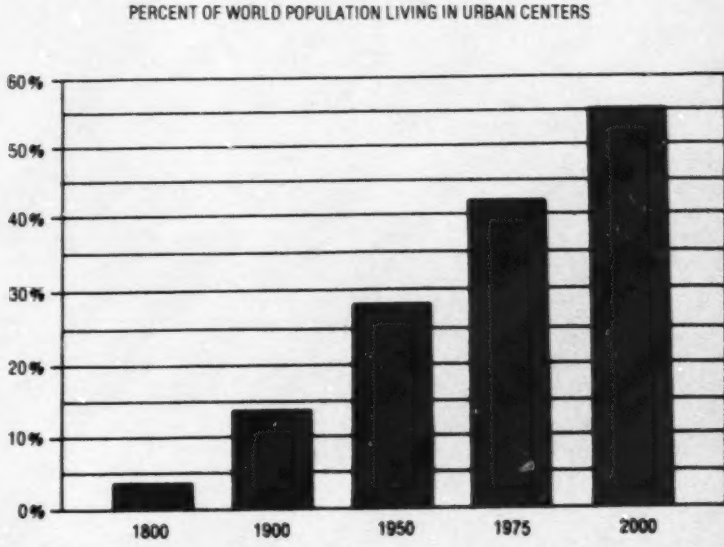
Questions 66-67 refer to the following passage:

A family just bought a 40-acre farm 15 miles from a large city in the middle latitudes. They now have to decide what to raise and how to raise it.

66. What type of product would they most likely raise on the farm?
A. Wheat
B. Cattle
C. Rice
D. Fresh vegetables

67. What development poses the greatest threat to farms like this one?
A. Flooding
B. Increases in the market price of farm products
C. Demand for land for urban activities
D. Lack of machinery

Questions 68-69 are based on the following graph.



68. What made possible the trend shown on this graph?
A. An increase in agricultural productivity
B. Fear of wild life
C. More efficient water transportation
D. Increased control of crime

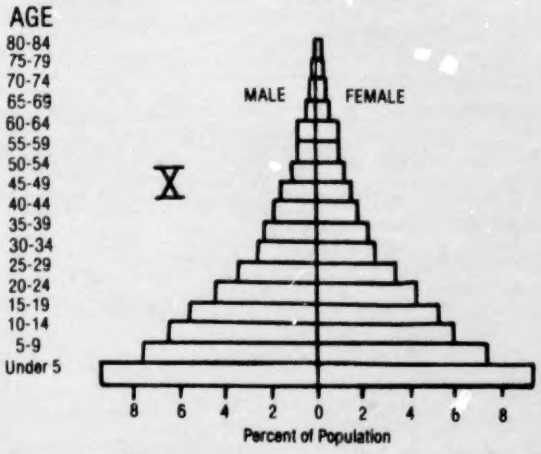
69. In the year 1500, the percentage of people living in urban centers would look most similar to which date on the graph?
A. 1800.
B. 1900.
C. 1950.
D. 2000.

* * * * * * * * * * *

70. What ocean carries most of the world's trade?
A. Arctic
B. Pacific
C. Indian
D. Atlantic

71. Rice is a major crop in many densely populated areas of Asia because of its
A. dependence on farm machinery.
B. demanding climatic requirements.
C. high caloric yield per acre.
D. use as cattle and swine feeds.

Questions 72-73 refer to the following graph.



72. Which age bracket has the most people?
    A. Under twenty years old
    B. Twenty to forty years old
    C. Forty to sixty years old
    D. Over sixty years old

73. From this graph it is clear that this area has a high
    A. crime rate.
    B. death rate.
    C. standard of living.
    D. literacy rate.

* * * * * * * * * *

74. Most of the foreign trade carried on by the Soviet Union is with
    A. the United States.
    B. other Communist countries.
    C. countries of western Europe.
    D. developing countries.

75. Beef cattle are usually raised commercially in areas that have
    A. low population density.
    B. high yearly rainfall.
    C. rich soils.
    D. hot temperatures all year.